

# JEWISH HOLIDAYS (NEXT 3 YEARS)

5785

AUGUST 2024  
Tisha B'Av: Aug 12-13 (M-Tu)

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

**Rosh Hashanah: Oct 2-4 (W-F)**

**Yom Kippur: Oct 11-12 (F-Sa)**

Sukkot:(First 2 days)Oct 16-18(W-F)

Shemini Atzeret: Oct 23-24 (W-Th)

Simchat Torah: Oct 24-25 (Th-F)

DECEMBER

Hanukkah: Dec 25 - Jan 2 (W-Th)

JANUARY 2025

MARCH

Purim: Mar 13-14 (Th-F)

APRIL

**Passover:**

**(First 2 days) Apr 12-14 (Sa-M)**

**(Last 2 days) Apr 18-20 (F-Su)**

MAY

JUNE

Shavuot: June 1-3 (Su-Tu)

JULY

5786

AUGUST 2025  
Tisha B'Av: Aug 2-3 (Sa-Su)

SEPTEMBER

**Rosh Hashanah: Sept 22-24 (M-W)**

OCTOBER

**Yom Kippur: Oct 1-2 (W-Th)**

Sukkot: (First 2 days) Oct 6-8 (M-W)

Shmini Atzeret: Oct 13-14 (M-Tu)

Simchat Torah: Oct 14-15 (Tu-W)

DECEMBER

Hanukkah: Dec 14-22 (Su-M)

JANUARY 2026

MARCH

Purim: Mar 2-3 (M-Tu)

APRIL

**Passover:**

**(First 2 days) Apr 1-3 (W-F)**

**(Last 2 days) Apr 7-9 (Tu-Th)**

MAY

Shavuot: May 21-23 (Th-Sa)

JUNE

JULY

Tisha B'Av: July 22-23 (W-Th)

5787

AUGUST 2026

SEPTEMBER

**Rosh Hashanah: Sept 11-13 (F-Su)**

**Yom Kippur: Sept 20-21 (Su-M)**

Sukkot:(First 2 days)Sept 25-27(F-Su)

OCTOBER

Shmini Atzeret: Oct 2-3 (F-Sa)

Simchat Torah: Oct 3-4 (Sa-Su)

DECEMBER

Hanukkah: Dec 4-12 (F-Sa)

JANUARY 2027

MARCH

Purim: Mar 22-23 (M-Tu)

APRIL

**Passover:**

**(First 2 days) Apr 21-23 (W-F)**

**(Last 2 days) Apr 27-29 (Tu-Th)**

MAY

JUNE

Shavuot: June 10-12 (Th-Sa)

JULY

Any holiday that is highlighted is a major holiday that Jewish staff and students will probably be absent for and should not be expected to prepare assignments or for exams.

Any holiday in bold is a major holiday that Jewish staff and students may be absent for.

\*Holidays and their meanings are explained on the back.

**JCRB | AJC** Kansas City

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM & PURSUING JUSTICE

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# \* Jewish Holidays Explained

## **Description of observance:**

There are three major branches within Judaism: Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform. All three consider the holy days to be special religious events. Each has its own practice of observance regarding work and school on holy days. As a result, the number of days which a holy day may be observed varies from person to person.

*Students and staff will probably be absent during the following holidays and should not be expected to prepare assignments or for exams:*

### **Rosh Hashanah: Jewish New Year**

The beginning of the Jewish year. It is the first of the High Holy Days and marks the start of the ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.

### **Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement**

This is the most holy day in the Jewish year. It is devoted to fasting and prayer, as people ask G-d and each other for forgiveness.

### **Passover (Seders - first two evenings): Festival of Freedom**

The Seder is a family ritual service that occurs on the first two evenings of Passover. Students should not be expected to prepare assignments or for exams on these nights. The first two and last two days of Passover are holy days, when students and staff may be absent. Passover celebrates the liberation of the Jews from Egyptian bondage. During this eight-day holiday, many Jews refrain from eating bread products and eat matzah (unleavened bread) instead.

**All holidays in the Jewish calendar begin at sundown the night before.** For example, if Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) starts on October 2nd, as it does this year, that means the holiday starts at sundown on the 2nd and ends at sundown on October 3rd. Therefore, it is important for schools to avoid conflicts on both the eve and the day of the holiday. The Jewish Sabbath (Shabbat) begins each week at sundown on Friday night and ends at sundown on Saturday night.

*Students and staff may be absent for the following holidays:*

### **Sukkot (first two days)**

Sukkot is the Jewish festival of thanksgiving and harvest.

### **Shemini Atzeret**

Shemini Atzeret is the eighth day of Sukkot, on which special memorial prayers are said.

### **Simchat Torah**

Simchat Torah celebrates the conclusion of the yearly cycle of reading the Five Books of Moses and its beginning anew, thus demonstrating that study is a never-ending process.

### **Passover (last two days)**

The last two days of Passover conclude the celebration of Passover.

### **Shavuot**

Shavuot celebrates the covenant established at Mount Sinai between G-d and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.

*Festivals that do not require missing work or school:*

### **Hanukkah: Festival of Lights**

Hanukkah celebrates the triumph of religious liberty and the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees in 165 BCE.

### **Purim: Feast of Lots**

A joyous festival commemorating the time when the Jews of ancient Persia were saved from extermination through the intervention of Queen Esther.